



Hi, my name is Karafa.

I initially approached my work coach at the local Job Centre to say that I was interested in working for the NHS. A friend of mine had recommended working for the NHS as it was a good place to work. I was referred to a local training provider, and received confirmation that I had a place on a three-week training programme.

I found everyone involved in the three-week training course to be helpful. Staff from South West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust were there to offer advice and support. As part of the training programme, I had an onsite tour of the Kendray and Fieldhead hospital sites – these visits were useful to know where to go. I also found the fire awareness and computer training helpful.

When I had successfully completed the three-week training programme, I secured a guaranteed interview for the facilities operative scheme. I was initially nervous at the prospect of having to do an interview but knowing the people doing the interview having met them on my training made me feel more relaxed.

I was pleased to successfully secure a position as facilities operative. There was a range of mandatory training to complete when starting the role, and I was supported by Trust staff to do this.

Since starting my new role, I have continued to recommend the scheme to both family and friends. I found the whole experience helpful and without the training, I would have struggled to understand the new skills I was learning.

I enjoy the facilities role that focused on catering due to the previous experience I had gained working in the service industry. I also enjoy cooking at home, so it felt familiar to me. Within my new role I feel that it is all about working together as a team - it is a good attitude to have.

